

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 837

By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate The Farmers Bank of Portland upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary businesses and their remarkable employees who, through their unwavering commitment to excellence, are a credit to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such notable business is The Farmers Bank of Portland, a business which, since its founding 100 years ago, has been a stable source of support, sound investments, and financial wisdom for the good citizens of Sumner and Robertson Counties; and

WHEREAS, the bank was founded in 1912 by W.T. McGlothin, affectionately known as "Uncle Billy", who had already enjoyed many successful ventures, such as running the rail depot and a small grocery, serving as magistrate, and growing and distributing the first strawberries from Portland; and

WHEREAS, at the first recorded meeting of the stockholders on January 29, 1912, J.M. Donoho was elected chairman, J.B. Empson was elected secretary, and Mr. McGlothin was elected president, the first of only eight presidents to serve throughout the bank's 100-year history; and

WHEREAS, always a reliable and trustworthy institution, The Farmers Bank remained on Main Street in Portland until 1993, when the main office was relocated to its new building at 120 Village Drive; and

WHEREAS, today The Farmers Bank maintains several branch locations in surrounding areas, including White House, Springfield, Ridgetop, Millersville, Cross Plains, and Westmoreland; and

WHEREAS, while locals have witnessed the loss of many financial institutions over the last century due to economic disasters like the Great Depression and the most recent recession, The Farmers Bank thrives as a testament to its endurance and commitment to its customers and stockholders, who have earned dividends every year since 1917; and

WHEREAS, from its humble beginnings with a subscription of stock worth \$13,400, the bank now operates eleven offices, employs 150 area residents, and is currently a \$560 million institution; and

WHEREAS, the active president, Tommy Whittaker, attributes The Farmers Bank's success to compassionate business practices and good customer service; and

WHEREAS, as The Farmers Bank celebrates its rich history of a century of financial service, it is appropriate to honor the many employees, both past and present, who have used their time, talent, and resources to serve their community and fellow man; and

WHEREAS, The Farmers Bank is most assuredly worthy of this General Assembly's recognition and approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the founders, staff, and leadership of The Farmers Bank for their tireless dedication to customer service, congratulate them on the celebration of the business's 100th anniversary, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.